

Contact

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(LinkedIn)

Top Skills

Public Speaking

Community Outreach

Higher Education

Honors-Awards

Stuart L. Farber Endowed Merit
Scholarship for Ethical Conduct,
Civility and ASI Leadership Service

30 Women Under 30

Keynote Speaker at 2018 Ethics in
Leadership Gala

TEDxCSULB Speaker

Agatha Kotani

Senior Legislative Assistant at U.S. Department of Labor
Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Summary

Passionate and dedicated in helping my community, I thrive to inspire others while making the world a better place. With experiences in policy advocacy and research on the federal, state, and local levels as well as in the classroom, as a woman of color and child of immigrants, I devote my work to advance stronger, more equitable policy.

Experience

U.S. Department of Labor
Senior Legislative Assistant
October 2022 - Present (1 year 1 month)

U.S. House of Representatives
2 years

Economic Policy Advisor
December 2021 - October 2022 (11 months)
Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Advise the Congresswoman on all economic policy issues, such as education, labor, tax, commerce, housing, trade, and financial services. Lead bipartisan negotiations on supply chain resilience (passed) in the CHIPS & Science Act and staff the Congresswoman for her service on the conference committee. Led legislative efforts to include \$1,400 direct payments (enacted) in the COVID-19 stimulus package and to amend the National Apprenticeship Act (passed) to be more inclusive of underrepresented groups. Meet, negotiate, and coordinate with the White House, federal agencies, Congressional leadership, and bipartisan stakeholders on a daily basis. Research for and draft legislation on various economic policy issues, including housing affordability, startup investments for minority entrepreneurs, and workforce development for youth impacted by gun violence. Facilitate convening of Congressional Future of Work Caucus events to highlight economic issues.

Legislative Assistant
November 2020 - December 2021 (1 year 2 months)

Washington, DC

United States Senate

Legislative Correspondent

June 2019 - November 2020 (1 year 6 months)

Washington D.C. Metro Area

Staffed the Senator to Senate Finance Committee and Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee hearings for health care legislation and related issues, including during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. Reported directly to the Senator on a weekly basis on analysis of unemployment data and trends. Composed 75-250 unique constituent responses each month for health, education, labor, and telecommunications issues.

DC Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE)

Public Policy Fellow

September 2018 - May 2019 (9 months)

Washington D.C. Metro Area

Contributed to writing successful grant application for \$10.6 million funding in early childhood education for Washington, DC. Lead research to inform state guidance on early childhood education policy. Interviewed experts to identify best practices in early childhood education to help inform state policy. Engaged with focus groups and stakeholders to analyze data, write policy memos, and yield policy recommendations.

Mastery Charter Schools

Calculus & Pre-Calculus Teacher

August 2016 - June 2018 (1 year 11 months)

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Taught 12th grade Calculus and Pre-Calculus in addition to other subjects across grades 7-12 including Algebra II, Algebra I, math enrichment, and art. Crafted my own curricula for Pre-Calculus and Calculus. Served on school committee to address areas of concern in academic and discipline policies.

Teach For America

Corps Member

June 2016 - May 2018 (2 years)

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

California State Student Association

3 years

Vice President Of Finance

July 2014 - June 2016 (2 years)

Managed a \$1.4 million dollar budget. Oversaw the process to expand CSSA's budget 2.5 fold. Advocated for an accessible, high quality California State University (CSU) system by meeting and working with state representatives at both the state and federal levels. Led research projects to supplement lobbying efforts to legislators. Testified to the Assembly Subcommittee on Education Finance as a panelist about the Middle Class Scholarship.

Student Liaison to the Academic Senate of the CSU

July 2013 - June 2014 (1 year)

Reported to and from CSSA and the Academic Senate of the CSU (ASCSU). Collaborated with the ASCSU for any projects that requires student input. Attended monthly CSSA meetings to do student advocacy work on campus, system-wide, and federal levels. Attended bimonthly ASCSU meetings to discuss academic affairs across the CSU.

Public Policy Institute of California

Research Intern

June 2015 - August 2015 (3 months)

San Francisco, California

Produced charts and drew important findings used in PPIC's final report "Improving College Graduation Rates: A Closer Look at California State University." Helped establish a foundation for PPIC's work on college completion with the creation of the PPIC Higher Education Center. Coded and streamlined hundreds of pages of campus reports. Cataloged important statistical data from the CSU and national databases into a comprehensive master spreadsheet.

Associated Students, Incorporated at California State University

Long Beach

2 years 4 months

Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

June 2013 - May 2014 (1 year)

Oversaw a \$14 million operating budget that includes service to fulfill students' needs and enhance campus life. Coordinated with the Business Office which performs bookkeeping, accounting, and financial reporting services of the corporation. Managed all fiscal policies of the corporation. Revamped the granting system to benefit all organizations more fairly. Improved the

scholarship program and its marketing to be more inclusive, doubling the number of applicants received this year compared to last year. Streamlined the reimbursement procedures to be up to three times faster than before.

Board of Directors

February 2012 - May 2013 (1 year 4 months)

Advocated on behalf of all students at a campus, CSU, and state level to ensure affordable, quality education. Sat as an executive board member of the Associated Business Students Organization Council to help program events and lead organizations. Attended weekly Board of Directors meetings to discuss, vote, and approve/reject university-wide matters. Elected as the Senate Pro Tempore and assumes the role as Vice President during his absence. Represented the university and college by listening to others' needs, providing suggestions, and reporting to faculty. Participated in Senate Audit, Human Resources Management, Student Fee Advisory committees and Board of Control to aid in corporate auditing, review and approve ASI employees' policies and job descriptions, review and take action on various student fees, and oversee the multi-million dollar budget run by ASI, respectively.

Education

University of Pennsylvania

Masters of Science in Education, Urban Education · (2016 - 2018)

California State University-Long Beach

Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Business Administration: Finance and Human Resource Management · (2011 - 2016)